

Skyline College First Year Experience Recommendations

1. Adopt a philosophy to guide our work with first year students. (*College Strategy 1.1*)
 - A. Establish an explicit philosophy statement that provides an overarching framework for working holistically and intentionally with first year students
 - B. Include the development, adoption, and regular review/evaluation of the First Year Philosophy statement in the institutional governance processes
 - C. Develop and implement a plan for effective communication and dissemination to faculty, staff, students and administration

2. Establish policies, procedures, and institutional structures that promote first year student success. (*College Strategy 1.1*)
 - A. Establish effective Communication Structures/Systems: (a) internally, among faculty and staff and (b) externally, with and among first year students; focusing on “personalized communication/invitation” to students.
 - B. Establish a coordinated organizational structure for the delivering first year programs, services, and activities.
 - C. Establish and support Professional Development structures that promote engaged pedagogies
 - D. Provide adequate physical structures/facilities that facilitate faculty/student as well faculty/faculty connection and dialogue
 - E. Develop programs, policies and procedures that “make the success path clearer to students (i. e. promote the retention, progress, success of first year students, both first-term and continuing).
 - F. Enhance partnership structures
 - G. Develop faculty/staff hiring structures that clarify expectations regarding institutional outcomes for FY students

3. Develop a research agenda that identifies FY students, monitors their progress, and reports their challenges and successes. (*College Strategy 2.1*)
 - A. Establish institutional learning goals to guide institutional planning at the course, program, degree, and extracurricular levels.
 - B. Conduct ongoing assessment on the following programs/services
 - C. Collect, analyze, and communicate data regarding FY students (both first-term and continuing)
 - D. Establish FY benchmarks (internal and external)

4. Diversify faculty/staff, curriculum, faculty/staff/student orientation and extra-curricular activities. (*College Strategy 1.3*)
 - A. Hire and retain diverse faculty and staff
 - B. Develop curricula that includes diverse perspectives
 - C. Hire a full-time outreach coordinator to improve outreach to community
 - D. Include/Explore tolerance and diversity in Orientation for faculty/staff/students
 - E. Enhance diversity training
 - F. Incorporate the Campus mission and Values statement into the campus environment
 - G. Unify various clubs, committees communities tat celebrate diversity

5. Develop programs/services that improve quality & quantity of communication to FY students, foster connections, facilitate transitions, & promote personal development during college. (*College Strategies 1.1/1.2/1.3*)
 - A. Improve communication to first year students, focusing on “personal” communication
 - B. Design and implement programs that promote faculty/student, student/student, student/community connections
 - C. Implement programs/services that facilitate the transition of FY students (first-term and continuing),
 - D. Provide services that promote the FY students personal development